

Meeting Minutes

Mayor's Advisory Committee For Equal Access (MACFEA)

Tuesday, July 19, 2016

Mo'ikeha Building, Meeting Room 2A-2B

4444 Rice Street, Lihu'e, HI 96766

Members Present: Rita Manriquez – State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board (STBIAB); Roberta Eiben, Consumer; Dr. Lucy Miller – DCAB (Disability and Communication Access Board) Board Member; Betty Bell, Kaua'i Federation for the Blind; Kathy English, Hawai'i Disability Rights Center; Ellen Ching, Consumer; Suzie Woolway, 'Ohana Home Health; Julia Hall, Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i; Kathy Sheffield, National Alliance on Mental Illness

Staff members also present: Linda Nuland Ames, ADA Coordinator; Lani Agoot, Administrative Specialist; Sinclair Salas-Ferguson, Deputy County Attorney.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roberta Eiben called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. with 9 members present.

INTRODUCTION OF MACFEA MEMBERS AND STAFF

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Regular Open Session Minutes of January 19, 2016

Ms. Woolway asked if there is a point person in regards to the shore access questions referenced in the January 19, 2016 minutes, to which Ms. Ames said that person would be Lenny Rapozo, Director of Parks and Recreation.

Action: Ms. Bell moved to approve the minutes as circulated. Ms. Woolway seconded the motion. Motion carried 9:0.

GUEST SPEAKER

- Elton Ushio, Civil Defense Manager
 - * Emergency Preparedness

Ms. Eiben introduced Mr. Ushio. Ms. Ames said that he needed more time to set up his power point presentation and asked the committee to move on to announcements from members. Ms. Miller said she still has concerns about the double captioning issue with Ho'ike, stating that there is still no change and no response. She asked for suggestions on how to go about getting a response and positive change from Ho'ike for the county business because the captions are still overlaid and not readable. Ms. Woolway asked her when she last heard from Ho'ike. Ms. Miller said they came to the meeting once

several months ago, there was follow up months later, several people wrote letters, and she attended a meeting for the State Board that wanted community input regarding continuing their license to do business. She shared her story and they listened but they still have not resolved the issue. Ms. Ames said the county does not have control over Ho'ike. The county has contacted them and asked them to fix the issue but it is their station. They are under the communication enforcement branch of the federal government, FCC. Ms. Ames said people need to file complaints against Ho'ike if they want to see change. She said it is the television station and the people who run it who are ignoring the request from the public to do the right thing about the captioning. Ms. Ames said she has no enforcement power over Ho'ike so it has to go to an agency that can make them comply with accessible communication.

Ms. Manriquez shared that the Department of Health puts on the Falls conference which educates people on falls because the elderly population is a big population that get imbalanced and falls are a great disabler. Ms. Manriquez was helping out an older friend who had fallen twice and needed help. She said once someone has a fall due to imbalance the chances of it happening again are very great. She said the county or the ADA office needs to be aware of this because it is a continuous disablement. Ms. Woolway asked when the conference would be to which Ms. Manriquez said the Department of Health holds the conference and would contact Ms. Ames to let her know when the next conference is. Ms. Ames said the Agency on Elderly Affairs usually sponsors the conference. Ms. Woolway suggested that someone from the Agency on Elderly Affairs come to the meeting and update the committee on upcoming events and things going on in the community.

Ms. Bell her group (Kauai Federation for the Blind) has been trying to be more active, last month the originator of the group spoke to them and gave them some history on the beginnings of the group. Next week Vic Allen, a blind member of the group, has a paddle business and is going to take the group paddling. Ms. Bell said there are a lot of people that are not being reached, there are people who can see but not well enough to read and there are a lot of opportunities like the Library for the Blind and CDs. She said the group is trying to get the word out more. The Kauai Federation for the Blind meets once a month on the third Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m., in the State Building, Room 203.

Mr. Ushio: My name is Elton Ushio, I am the Administrator of the Kauai Civil Defense Agency which is your local emergency management agency. There will be a question on your ballot this fall about whether or not the County Charter should be amended to change the name of Civil Defense to Emergency Management. And that is only because Hawai'i, through HRS 127a, finally changed on a state wide level from the old Civil Defense to the new term Emergency Management. But we are established by Charter so we have to ask the voters if it is okay to change the Charter to change Civil Defense to Emergency Management. It is pretty much the same thing.

What do we do? This is our fancy mission statement up there, "To protect the lives and property in the County of Kauai by coordinating and integrating efforts among all levels of government and the private sector to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and

recover from natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other threats and hazards.” Our vision, “The Kauai Civil Defense Agency strives to actively promote and enhance whole community preparedness, resilience and safety in the face of numerous threats, hazards and disasters that can potentially affect our island communities.”

When Linda asked me to speak she said if I could just go over some hot topics in a brief presentation, so primarily focusing on tsunami awareness and hurricane awareness. I am going to start with tsunamis. As you know June through November is the traditional hurricane season in the Central Pacific and on an average year we see four to five tropical cyclones entering the Central Pacific. We have had three direct hits since 1950, all three on Kauai, Dot in 1959, Ewa in 1982, and Iniki in 1992. We have a space down below there and there is Iselle which was a tropical storm that hit the Big Island in 2014. You will hear the weather service or the news forecasters talk about El Nino. What El Nino is, it is a weather condition that indicates a warmer than average sea surface temperature in the Pacific. Warmer temperatures generally mean a more active tropical cyclone season. Good news for this is, while we had a record setting season last year, the El Nino has weakened, ocean temperatures are cooling and we are actually transitioning to a neutral state. By the fall they tell us we will be in La Nina, which should mean at least for the second half of the hurricane season, less active. If you have seen the news reports lately though it is like a conveyor belt churning them out in the Eastern Pacific.

In review, the 2015 hurricane season, this shows some of the storm tracks and the colors indicate the intensity. The mosaic on the bottom, you might have seen that on social media, it came out on TV news, our friend and colleague Kevin Kodama from the National Weather Service put that together from all of their imagery showing the storms last season at their different intensities and where they were. You can see how lucky Hawai'i was not to get affected severely last year. We had some high surf, some rain on occasion, but no direct impacts from wind and significant storm surge or things of that nature. You can see in the satellite era from 1970 onward, last season with fifteen named storms was a record setting season.

Ms. Eiben: Does Alaska get tsunamis too?

Mr. Ushio: Yes they do and I will talk about that in a bit.

Ms. Eiben: My sister lives there.

Mr. Ushio: I will talk about Alaska and tsunamis shortly. Tropical cyclones by year, you can see fifteen there in 2015. The red bars are El Nino years, warm sea surface temperatures, the blue bars are the La Nina or cool sea surface temperatures years, and yellow are neutral. You can see that even in a La Nina year such as 1985 you can have an active cyclone season where they had eight that year. June through November is our hurricane season but the peak months are July, August and September, and by October it starts to decline and then very few. But you will notice tropical cyclones can occur any month of the year, we have seen them even in January and March. Our colleagues at the weather service always tells us to tell our partners and the public,

always be aware, be prepared, because no matter how few storms in a given month it only takes one to cause major impacts. In November we have had three storms, one of those was Hurricane Ewa which caused significant damage to Kauai.

The 2016 outlook, the weather service estimates we will have between four to seven tropical cyclones entering the Central Pacific or forming in the Central Pacific. Tomorrow Darby is supposed to cross the 140 west and that will be our second storm in the basin this early in the season so we will see if the weather service outlook holds or we end up having more. El Nino conditions are already transitioning. This slide, when we got it from the weather service was at the end of May so by now it is more in a neutral state and it is transitioning to La Nina later in the year.

Key preparedness points, in a nutshell, there are three main things: 1) Be informed, pay attention to the news, TV news, internet, radio, county press releases, things that we issue, and what the weather service issues. Part of being informed is educating yourself so participating in outreach, community education events or even this talk hopefully will help. Next, 2) Make a plan. Your plan should address different types of potential emergency or disaster situations, whether or not you decide to shelter in place, are you going to evacuate and if you do evacuate what are some possible shelters. What are some considerations for if you have infants, persons with access functional needs, special medical needs, or maybe even pets, all kinds of different considerations in your plan. Plans shouldn't be made in a vacuum, you have to talk to all family members and go over it so everyone is aware, keep everyone in the loop. Then, 3) Build your disaster kit. I will go over some examples of what kind of stuff to put in your kits.

Our main impacts that we are worried about for tropical cyclones are obviously extreme winds, strong winds cause damage to our infrastructure, our buildings, threats to lives and property. We also have severe flooding or flash flooding especially in low lying areas near streams and rivers, it can be very hazardous. It need not even be a hurricane or tropical storm to cause that flooding. At times it is just a low or tropical depression moving slower still holding all that moisture and it just dumps and gives us a really hard time like our 2012, the famous event where we got a FEMA disaster declaration, the 2006 with Koloko. Those weren't tropical cyclone events they were just heavy rain events. And finally storm surge. Many of you recall Iniki how in the Po'ipū area the waves came up way beyond the roads and houses, right up to and often times marrying our tsunami evacuation zone. That picture in the middle shows the debris line out by the Kikiaola harbor.

Family disasters planning, again, discuss different types of disasters, consider evacuation versus sheltering in place taking into account your location. If you are near the ocean subject to potential storm surge you better have a plan to evacuate just in case. The type of construction or when your home was last retrofitted, when it was constructed, do you have a safe room. You can identify the routes to your nearest shelters, have a plan for pets, and of course access functional needs, medical considerations, special equipment, etc. If you take a CPR or first aid class it is highly recommended. There are lots of online resources, you can go to our website

www.kauai.gov/civildefense or you can go to the Red Cross or the FEMA website or even www.readyhawaii.gov , there are lots of guides to disaster preparation, check lists, etc. We do recommend you make your own check list for your family, certain things you are going to have to do as storms approach. Some people, and I don't have a template for you, but some people do it where they the start of the hurricane season I am going to make sure my insurance policy is good. I am going to restock my disaster kit, take out the old items and us that for camping trips this summer and put new stuff in the kit, and go over it with the family. Maybe if a storm crosses the 140 and gets closer to the state and a watch is issued, make sure everyone in the family knows, time to refuel the vehicles, don't need to put up the shutters or put up the plywood on the windows yet but maybe when the warning issued add those to your check list. That is an example on how to use check lists in your planning.

Again, develop your disaster kit, examples of things you might need, rechargeable batteries, the type that you can shake the flash light or crank the radio or just have extra batteries. You need to have toiletries, bedding, medications, food and water. We recommend a five to seven day supply because if you go to our shelters we don't provide much of anything other than a safe haven in the short term. The shelter is there to provide you enhanced protection over staying outdoors in your vehicle or in a poorly constructed single wall home or home of older construction. You can bring cash if the ATMs go down and likely will, important personal identification and documents, pet supplies, and we recommend that your kit portable so it is not just something you keep at home but if you choose to evacuate, throw it in your vehicle and you can take it with you to the shelter.

These are our official shelters that we would use or possibly use in tropical cyclone events. I say possible and that is very important because these facilities are owned by different entities. The majority are owned by the State of Hawai'i Department of Education. We have Kauai Community College under the University of Hawai'i system, we have facilities owned by County Parks and Recreation. To open one of these we need to not only coordinate with the facility owner but also get our Red Cross people to provide shelter volunteers to operate them. We can to a certain extent augment that or bring in additional staffing from either the state or county work force because the new emergency management law makes every government employee subject to emergency activation. We also have to coordinate with our Public Information Officer so he or she is able to put our information to the media on our Facebook page and websites so everyone knows what sites are being opened. We do not recommend and we tell people please don't just go to a site assuming it will be open, confirm first. If in doubt call Civil Defense. I wouldn't say call us on any given day when we only have a handful of staff but when we are activated and opening shelters we have lots of staffing. All of our agencies are in the EOC and we have a lot of call takers.

This is hard to remember so I am going to make it easier for you, through the guidance of your Mayor, Mayor Carvalho, the last two seasons were kind of active and state wide there was a debate about do we publish the sites and many of the other jurisdictions in the state said no, we are not going to because people are going to just assume and go just like I told you guys not to do. The Mayor said to find a solution. So we did some

thinking and our Shelter Committee came up with this bright idea and we have this page that you can access on our website. Before you can even get here, I think one of the county attorneys like Nick Courson, helped us come with a disclaimer that you click on and then you access this page that has all this supporting information on the right hand column, it has a list of shelters for planning purposes, the second item from the bottom of the Civil Defense logo, that will pull up that list that you just saw. It will say which shelters are accessible or suitable for pet sheltering. I will tell you right now we have taken off the designations for access and functional needs and we did that because originally we were required to predesignate but now the guidance from FEMA after super storm Sandy is you be fair, you make everyone accessible not just a few. So the guidance to our shelter staff and our facilities is that they all be accessible. We will accommodate persons with access functional needs at any of our shelters. We might make adjustments like there is a room at Waimea High School for example that is only accessible via a lift and it is not mean for people so we would put appropriate individuals in other rooms at Waimea High School. Once we open a shelter this map will start to populate in green dots. You click on it and it will indicate which site and all the information. Right now there is nothing open so it looks like this.

Definitions, for your awareness, when we issue a tropical cyclone watch, either hurricane or tropical storm watch, that means either a tropical storm or hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours. When a warning issued that means it is expected within 36 hours. Some pictures from Iniki, can anyone tell me where that photo was shot in the upper left hand corner? That is between Kīlauea and Kalihiwai. The one under that is the Tunnel of Trees and under that is Kapa'a Town and KIUC will tell us those are Hawaiian Telecom lines down.

For warning and notifications these are some of the tools in our quiver. Our partners issue their own products such as the weather service, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center, Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency, formerly State Civil Defense. Our county PIOs issue press releases, we have an island wide system of outdoor warning sirens, we have our county's emergency mass notification system that can do phone, email and text messaging to the whole island, 2,600 contacts in about 15 minutes. Kauai County, we are very selective about the messages we put out on that, only for certain warnings and the Water Department uses it to notify people of water outages or conserve water requests and things like that. Some of our other jurisdictions in the state may send out over 300 messages a year on their mass notification systems. We found the more we send the more people ask to be taken off so we are very selective about when we use that tool. We also have the county Facebook page because social media is monitored, especially by the younger generation, a lot more than all the other traditional mediums. We have the EAS, the Emergency Alert System is the one that comes in on your TV or radio, it is also used for Amber Alerts. And then we have Civil Air Patrol, two aircraft at our disposal, on our request they will fly our coastline and Ni'ihau as a strobe light and a loud speaker to let people know that something is up.

Finally, that twin acronym on the bottom is for the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System/Wireless Emergency Alert. That is a federal FEMA product that comes automatically installed on your smart phone so that is why you have an app. for

emergency alerts. That is that very loud and obnoxious message, if you don't disable it and you are in range of a cell tower in an affected area, even if you are traveling, it will go off if a warning is issued.

Ms. Ching: On the CTY blackboard, what is the amount of people that are in it versus head of households?

Mr. Ushio: The last time I looked we had about 26,000 individual contacts. So that could be your business, your household, if you registered your cell phone, your facts it will still count as only one so 26,000 individual contact profiles.

Ms. Ching: What is your estimation of coverage, is that one quarter of our population?

Mr. Ushio: Our population is approximately 75,000. I will tell you what it is based on, our contractor, every month, purchases the 411 directory so any listed number unless they call and say take me off and put me on the permanent block list because I don't want to get any calls. The 411 directory is automatically populated. Then people who call us or go online to our website and sign up for their email, text message device, those are additional and we have several thousand more that signed up that way. Some people say they don't want their land line to ring but send me a text and that is all they sign up for, text message or an email. The 26,000 is based mostly on the 411 directory and partially with those who have signed up other devices.

Tsunami specific information, our former colleague Mark before he retired, one of his final projects that he did was the tsunami evacuation signage project. It shows when you are entering and when you are leaving a tsunami evacuation zone. And not for residents but more for people who are visiting the island, it shows the quickest routes out of the zone. Not on every single road though, mainly state highways and major county roads. If you live here already or work here or vacation here frequently we recommend you study the evacuation maps already and know what are some of the ways to get out. Don't wait until the middle of the night, you want to know that ahead of time. But the signs are there because we get a lot of calls during tsunami warnings especially from visitors so that helps. Most of the time the good news is that we have at least four hours or so advance notice but there is one scenario which is a Big Island generated earth quake which would have the first waves arrive here within forty minutes. Those are the ones where you really need to know ahead of time how to get out.

Ms. Ching: In your opinion what is the most effective notification venue?

Mr. Ushio: I have a smart phone, I will be automatically called by 911 when there is a disaster or an emergency, anything that requires us to activate. But I keep my IPAS emergency alerts active because it is an instance notification system, it doesn't require our state warning point at Hawai'i Emergency Management or State Civil Defense to call all the 911s, they do a group call, and say attention all stations this is state warning point, urgent local tsunami warning due to a major Big Island earth quake. Then the dispatcher has to look up the numbers and who they have to call and there is delay.

But as soon as the warning is issued that federal system will activate the phones. I subscribe to that which available to the general public, I subscribe to NOAA products, there is something only available to people with a .gov or emergency management tie in and that is called INWS or I National Weather Service. That provides us instant notification from a second means so I will get two alarms immediately. The county's black board connect system, as powerful as it is, there is a delay because it requires myself, one of our staff, or our Public Information Officers from the Mayor's office to get on a computer or tablet and activate the system. For me, I rely on IPAS, partner agencies, and 911 is a fallback whereas the general public, IPASWA is available. What I don't have up here that is available to you in the public, if you look at the Hawai'i News Now or KHON and all of these different news stations, they say we have made our own app, sign up for it and you will get alerts. I don't know how well they work or if they discriminate by counties because you don't want to be woken up for something on the Big Island but if it is state wide, that is great. There are other applications and services out there but that is what I use.

Our tsunami evacuation maps were updated for the first time in many years, in 2014, using the latest modeling and award winning project by the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa using the five worst 20th Century tsunamis recalculated at high tide with the latest in deep ocean mapping as far as how that would affect where the waves stack up, where they run up higher. They did laser imaging studies of the shoreline, they used historic data and I don't know how they did it but it matched historic events within centimeters. We updated in 2014, about that time the tsunami scientists started saying you know, there is evidence of bigger ones, we are going to run modeling on it. They said you know that sink hole out in the Mahauleipu area, the botanists are looking at pollen and seed samples and they say around the year 1600 there was a huge tsunami because there are seashell and coral deposits in there. Then they started looking for more evidence and they found this certain location in the Aleutians that can generate what they call this Greater Aleutian Tsunami or GAT event. Honolulu got their modeling first so they publish updated evacuation zones, last year with that three tiered model, normal tsunami, extreme tsunami, and then safe in all scenarios.

Maui County and Kauai County were next to get our modeling so we just went live in April. I noticed that none of our predecessors had ever done maps for Ni'ihau so I asked them to run modeling for Ni'ihau and we went with the Robinsons and we created a tsunami evacuation map for Ni'ihau. Potential significant event is right where that arrow is pointing on the screen, in the central Aleutian Islands. They do all kinds of modeling and they can show where that energy goes and that one kind of comes straight to us. The maximum run ups, waves will run up to the 100 foot elevation in some places on our north shore like Wainiha Valley for example so we had to expand our evacuation zones. If you look in your phone books printed this year and in future years it will have this cover map with the three layers below, red, yellow, and green, in most scenarios we will just say evacuate the red unless that once every 500 to 1000 year Aleutian event happens. I don't have all the maps on here because I shortened this presentation to use last night, I had to go and speak to a Waimea Business Professionals Association. Along the Napali Coast rapid elevation rise so you don't see many areas where the yellow extreme zone differs from the regular zone, very few

areas. As we get along to the Pacific Missile Range Facility it laps up against those foothills at the edge Mānā plain. Again I don't have the whole island here but the resource is available in your phone books and online. Kekaha, a little more in some areas, Waimea Town, you can see with Waimea Town the extreme tsunami goes further into the town almost to Kauai Veteran's Memorial Hospital and then further up Waimea Valley. As we go toward Hanapēpē it affects mainly the valley, it already goes up and over the highway in a normal scenario but it goes further up the valley. The good news for you folks is that KIUC power plant survives this scenario. They might not have the ability to off load fuel oil for a while but they have about a 30 day supply and then power demands will go down if the grid is damaged because people can't be using all that power any way with all the lines down. We will be pretty good as far as the power plant is concerned even with the greater Aleutian. I don't have the rest of the maps on this slide but if you want to see it I can pull it up on another presentation. Līhu'e, you can see just more up the rivers and valleys like down by the Marriot Hotel. It goes up all the way to the upper parking lot of the Marriot in the extreme scenario and way up Hanamā'ulu Valley, all the way up almost to the Catholic Church. These are available on our website, www.kauai.gov/civildefense, you can find an interactive map tool where you can zoom on the map or you can click and you can see satellite imagery of the buildings. If anyone has a smart phone and you go to www.kauai.gov/civildefense it is going to locate you based on the cell towers and it is going to show you where you are relative to the zone. Any questions from anybody? Thank you.

Ms. Eiben: You guys will notify my family in Alaska if there is going to be a tsunami?

Mr. Ushio: They have their own tsunami warning center that will inform them. For us, we are local emergency management just for Kauai County.

Ms. Eiben: But they will be notified.

Mr. Ushio: They should be unless they are in some remote area where they don't have any kind of connectivity. Like for us, we have squatters in Kalalau Valley and the only way we can notify them is by sending Civil Air Patrol aircraft and if they don't hear the aircraft there is not much more we can do. If we have enough time, Land and Natural Resources from the State will fly in a helicopter with game wardens and buzz the valley and let everybody know but even then it is not a guarantee. I can't guarantee notification in the most remote areas for your relatives is what I am saying.

Ms. Eiben: Thank you.

Ms. Ching: Can you send your power point?

Mr. Ushio: Yes, I can send the power point.

Ms. Eiben: Julia?

Ms. Hall shared that she has a client with severe MS (Multiple Sclerosis) and would be talking with the MS Society on O'ahu tomorrow and asked if anyone had any local information regarding MS. She said whatever information she obtains from her phone conference with O'ahu she would bring to the next meeting. Ms. Woolway suggested she speak with Taryn Davis with the ALS Association and she would get her Taryn's contact information.

Ms. Sheffield shared about mental health and what is happening on the island. NAMI finished a 12 week family to family class which is an educational class for families of the person that has the mental illness; it is a free class and finished in February. Having become certified as a mental health first aide teacher she has taught Maui Police recruits and most recently the Kauai Police recruits. She also shared with KPD a presentation about crisis intervention training called CIT and has been extremely successful throughout the United State and in different foreign countries. She offered to write them a grant to send people to be trained in the methodology which is very important based on what is going on in the world today in the United States with police brutality and lack of awareness of people that have mental illness or drug and alcohol problems. She has not heard back from them yet and is getting frustrated. She has offered this class to several different major organizations such as the Department of Health and the Council of Churches free of charge. Usually the class runs \$150 to \$180 per person. Ms. Sheffield said she is frustrated that people are not recognizing or not admitting and refusing help that is very valuable.

Ms. Sheffield shared that she just returned from the National Convention where some very exciting research is being done on genomes and genetics. They got a stem cell from a skin sample and were able to go back and start infant DNA which will enable them to target medication for specific mental illnesses over time. There is a project out of Harvard that is using iphones and touch technology for treatment of mental illness, particularly schizophrenia. Ms. Manriquez asked Ms. Sheffield if she had tried talking to the Department of Health on Kauai to which Ms. Sheffield said she spoke with Terry and was told to call back on June 7th because she was busy with Tropic Care. Ms. Sheffield called back a week later and emailed but has not received a response. Ms. Manriquez suggested she speak with Ray Ho. Ms. Sheffield said she also spoke with Rachelle Bachman and was told she could use their conference room and she would follow up with Mr. Ho. Ms. Sheffield said there is also an adult support group that has been in place for three years that is very popular and they just started a Peers support group that will meet every month at Kauai Hospice at 5:00 p.m. Ms. English asked if Ray Ho was no longer the case management supervisor at DD to which Ms. Ching clarified that Dr. Dileep Ball is the District Health Officer and is in charge of the Department of Health on Kauai. Ms. Sheffield said that Terry Torres is taking over. Ms. Ching said the District Health Officer supervises the DDD or case management and information branch and that would be Ray Ho.

Ms. Sheffield went on to say that the State Department of Mental Health, even though it's not the county's business or department it all affects everyone tremendously because of loved ones or friends that need those services, and it appears to be in an

absolute uproar. There is no forensic psychologist, longtime psychiatrist Dr. Samsul is retiring and the State has demanded that all case workers be put back to a level 4 which means about a thousand dollars a month pay cut. She has heard that some very key people are getting ready to leave and this is a disaster because it is the only true mental health facility on the island. She asked if anyone has any influence to please let her know who she can talk to. Ms. Manriquez commented that the State Department of Health is going through tremendous changes and getting a new director and have lost a lot of people. Ms. Sheffield said they hired a new CEO who didn't know what NAMI was. She said he may have an administrative background but not a mental health background and is it something that cannot be accepted. Ms. Manriquez agreed that more people have to make a statement.

Ms. English said the Hawai'i Disability Rights Center has hired a new part-time advocate who lives on Kauai and will act as added support. She will be focused on voter education, voter rights, voter registration, emergency preparedness to help people with disabilities and advance directives which they do for people at no charge. Ms. English said her name is Kawehi Martin and she hopes to introduce her at the next meeting.

Ms. Ching shared that she retired from Easter Seals after 32 years in November and was recruited to work at the Kauai Economic Development Board in March. She had already been working with them on several projects, the renovation of the Waimea Dispensary building which is now the Easter Seals Westside Service Center, and the Creative Technology Center in Lihu'e next to the Convention Hall. She said she is excited about this project and what it can offer the community in the way of training and digital media and technology. NBC news featured one of the outstanding organizations working with young adults with autism on special effects and training them on software and how they were able to get jobs to the point of working on some key mini-series like Game of Thrones and blockbuster films. She said there are a lot of great examples of individuals with intellectual disabilities getting employed through digital media. Ms. Woolway asked Ms. Ching to bring more information to the next meeting. Ms. Ching directed a comment to Ms. Sheffield saying that before she left Easter Seals they researched crisis management systems and selected and implemented one although she couldn't remember the name of the system. She said they were trained and certified annually on crisis management. Ms. Sheffield added that the Department of Education selected this plan for children and young adults and she does the adult version.

REPORTS

- ADA Coordinator's report

Ms. Nuland said the Library for the Blind is available to people with communication disorders, students with dyslexia and anyone that needs to have the books orally can qualify to receive them. It has become broader every year. Regarding NAMI, she asked Ms. Sheffield if she has heard from the Agency on Elderly Affairs, saying that because of a course she is doing to train new county employees, a question came up

about the homeless situation at the county building. Employees were getting edgy and they didn't know what to do because some of the people were experiencing episodes of mental illness. Ms. Nuland said she told them about NAMI and was told that Ms. Sheffield would contact her about providing a course for the employees to address how to not escalate a situation. Ms. Nuland said she would follow up with Mr. Sheffield and the Office of Elderly Affairs.

Ms. Nuland shared that the county's summer internship program for high school and college students usually targets specific programs within the departments. There are approximately ten applications for every position so it is very competitive. She wanted to make sure that the students with disabilities were included and investigated some federal funding called Work Force Innovation and Opportunity Act and worked with the Office of Economic Development and vocational rehabilitation. The county was able to get federal funding for this summer and also for expansion of the program for two additional years. Students must be between the ages of 16 and 24. A student can mean, in addition to being in high school or college, being in adult education or taking a certificate course, and must become clients of DVR. The county hired 16 individuals for the summer program through this program. Ms. Nuland said the county hopes to hire at least 25 individuals for the next two summers. She was told there is funding for up to 50 people and hopes that perhaps the program could run at two month periods throughout the year rather than just during the summer.

Ms. Nuland shared that she has been nominated to be on the Language Access Council by the governor a year and a half ago. She said when she started to understand about the civil rights act requirements for language access she realized that the county wasn't aware enough and didn't have a good system in place. The LAC has provided specialized training and will continue to provide more training in 2016. She everything in county government needs to be accessible for everyone and that includes people with limited English. They county now has a system in place. Ms. Nuland said the text to 911 is not official yet but Kauai does have the system up and running now. The system is for anyone who needs to communicate by text for whatever reason. She told members although an official announcement cannot be made until the other islands are ready, to let people on Kauai know about it.

Ms. Nuland said it was recently brought to her attention that it would be nice if the committee had a newsletter and said it was a wonderful idea. I would be great to announce upcoming events and share information. She suggested that the committee work on making it happen and she is willing to assist. Ms. Nuland shared that Dr. Lucy informed her that the PBS program Insights had a show recently about service dogs which is a major issue with ADA now. The program focused on and what the rules are and how valuable real service dogs are and the risk of them being interfered with by somebody's pet. Ms. Sheffield added that it is the emotional support pets that are the big issue and was discussed at NAMI. Ms. Nuland said she gets calls and people openly ask where they can buy a fake cape for their dog. Some want their dog to fly on the plane with them for free.

Ms. Nuland shared that she had an interesting experience traveling to and from Denver for a four day symposium in a wheelchair. Fortunately the Disability and Communication Access Board had sent her to the Lihue Airport to train TSA and the ground people in ADA basics. The symposium is held annually and covers employment, Title 1, Title 2 government entities, and Title 3 private entities so there is a wide range of discussion. Ms. Nuland said she wanted to learn specifically where the county stands in regard to requirements for accessible websites and also about regulations for outdoor open spaces, beaches and beach parks. She said people were asking her questions because they have heard good things about what has been done in regard to beach accessibility on Kauai. The State of Hawai'i is looking at each county to have choices of accessible beaches and allow others to remain natural. Ms. Nuland said she has been doing a lot of ADA training (introduction to the ADA and basic customer service) for various county departments. The County of Kauai Department of Transportation is putting on a series of three trainings on Saturdays in September and they want to include the ADA training. Ms. Nuland said she recommended that Dr. Lucy and NAMI be contracted and included because they want to spend time going more in depth about specific disabilities and how to provide the best service.

Ms. Nuland shared that Denver sparked the modern movement for inclusion, eventually leading to the ADA. In 1978 people with mobility problems were usually stuck in some facility somewhere or they had to stay in their homes with very few opportunities to get out. Too many people were put into assisted living when what they needed was accessibility. Nineteen of them went to a Denver bus stop and lay down around the bus and their signs said "We will ride", one sign was "I can't even get to the back of the bus." They stayed there and at night and slept around the tires of the bus and the police finally came and hauled them away. They were called "The Gang of 19" and Ms. Nuland had the opportunity to meet some of the members which was very exciting. From there the movement took off from city to city across the US and a group called ADAP grew strongly out of it and began heavily lobbying congress for what eventually became the ADA. Ms. Nuland said she includes this story in her ADA basics training along with some photographs from that era. She also includes photographs from the Congressional Crawl and explained that when the ADA stalled and the House of Representatives refused to vote on it people rallied to Washington and met at the bottom of the steps (88 steps). They left their various mobility devices at the bottom of the steps and spent hours pulling themselves step by step up to the top. As people reached the top of Capital steps police finally arrested them but the wheelchairs and canes and so forth were at the bottom of the steps so how were they going to take these people anywhere? Their point was made and four months later the law passed. This event took place in 1990 and the law passed in 1991.

Ms. Ching asked Ms. Nuland for an update on the outdoor area guidelines mentioned by Mr. Ioki. She said that part of the guidelines they were doing a matrix and as soon as the county had a point person (which they do now), they would make that available to all counties as well as DLNR and be available for public information. Ms. Nuland said she didn't think they were at this point however they have had some public meetings for initial input; one meeting was at the county. She said there were only three people present with no public testifiers and was told that is pretty much what

happened on every island even though so many people want the access. She said she would follow up with Mr. Ioki.

Ms. Ching shared that there has been work for a very long time to increase employment opportunities and we she wants to make sure that everyone recognizes that it wouldn't have gotten this far without the support of the Mayor. She congratulated Ms. Nuland that here are 16 participants and they are looking for 25 which is a huge win and accomplishment. Ms. Ching said it is a wonderful thing to be able to continue for at least two more years and hopes that more students will become aware of this opportunity. Ms. Nuland added that it is getting more students the services from DVR and wants to increase outreach to make sure that all students know they may be a client for DVR and there is an array of services and financial assistance available for more education. Ms. Ching asked if it is possible to do a press release toward the end of the summer about the program as a way to get the information out to which Ms. Nuland said yes. Ms. Nuland went on to give credit to the Mayor and Nadine for their support.

Ms. Bell shared that she inquired how people can use the library for the blind and was told that they need to have their doctor write a letter. She said she wanted to see how to get more people able to authorize the use of the library rather than just doctors. Ms. Woolway said that as a speech pathologist she has been able to sign people up, that it can be another paraprofessional that is working with someone. She added that doctors don't have any problem writing those kinds of scripts.

Action: Ms. Woolway moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m. Ms. Ching seconded the motion. Motion carried 9:0.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 12:30 p.m., Mo'ikeha Building, Meeting Room 2A/2B.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Lani Agoot, Administrative Specialist

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